

A F F I D A V I T.

This day, the third May 1946 appeared before me, Lieutenant Colonel Dr. B. Damon, Liaison Officer with the Netherlands War Crimes Liaison Section Singapore at Changi Jail, Singapore the person of

Colonel Nakata Masayuki

Colonel in the Imperial Japanese Army, born at Hirakata Machi, Kita-Kawacki-Gun, Osaka-Fu, Japan on the 8th October 1890 who, on having taken the oath according to his religious conviction to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth declared as follows:

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Q. When did you arrive in Java?

A. I arrived at Batavia on the 13th March 1944 as successor to General Saito.

Q. Were you charged with the Control over POW camps?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been in charge of the POW camps exclusively?

A. Up to early April, thereafter I was also in charge of the civil internees camps.

Q. Who gave you instructions regarding your work in respect of POW and civil internees camps?

A. My immediate Chief was Fieldmarshal Count Terauchi. The instructions he gave me were not directly sent to me by wire, but through Headquarters of the Army Commandant Batavia Lt. Gen. Harada Kumakichi. The other way round my cables went similarly via these Headquarters.

Q. What was the nature of these instructions from Count Terauchi?

A. In my opinion the instructions were not harsh, but not quite benevolent, a sort of middle course was followed.

Q. Were you bound to act according to these instructions or could you also act on your own responsibility?

A. I have always executed the orders according to instructions and never did I do anything on my own authority.

Q. You therefore ordered the treatment of the POWs and civil-internees and you also were the person who gave orders for their transfers?

A. Yes, this I did entirely upon orders from Terauchi and I can inform you especially that the deportation of POWs was in close relation to the active operations of the Army. Here I can add that I was entirely free in fixing the degree of severity, with which the POWs and internees should be treated.

Q. You therefore accept responsibility for the manner in which the POWs and internees during your regime were treated?

A. I only acknowledge responsibility as far as these can be deducted from the orders from Terauchi.

- Q. Did you yourself inspect the camps now and again, the accommodation of the internees, the kitchen and the food etc.?
- A. I have in all the camps under my command inspected the Officers quarters, the quarters of the men and the kitchen, whereby I found everything as directed by Terauchi, and as far as the internees are concerned, by the Army Commandant.
- Q. Then you didn't see how the camps were overcrowded. Particularly in the Tjideng camp where interned women and children had to sleep in turns?
- A. Yes. But we concentrated the interned in the smallest possible camps, to be able to guard them as best as possible against the Indonesians, in case an Allied landing should take place, which we expected in October 1945. Of sleeping in turns in Tjideng camp I know nothing.

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The Interrogator

The Witness,

W.g. B. Damen

W.g. Nakata Masayuki

/and/ in Japanese characters.

I, undersigned, sworn interpreter, Kim Il Sun, declare herewith as follows:

that I have truly transmitted the questions asked the witness in the English language into the latter's own language, viz. Japanese and have truly translated his answers into the English language.

W.g. Kim Il Sun

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